

# Ross Ice Shelf\_12925

Docket Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

United States  
Board on Geographical Names  
Case Brief (Antarctica)

No. 183  
No. 185

Decision: ~~Ross Shelf Ice~~ Ross Ice Shelf

Date:

Ross Ice Shelf 81°30'S., 175°00'W. A vast ice shelf, almost entirely afloat, occupying the entire southern part of the Ross Sea embayment and ending seaward in a cliffed ice front about 400 miles long and ranging from 15 to 50 meters high. Discovered on Jan. 28, 1841, by Capt. James Clark Ross, for whom it is named. Ross mapped the ice front eastward to 160°W.

Source: (2)

Source:

~~a cliffed ice front about 400 miles long; Discovered by Sir James Clark Ross, January 28, 1841, who mapped the ice front eastward to 160° W.~~

Not recommended:

Code Name or Names on Source

Date Code for Source

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) <del>X</del> Ross Shelf Ice  | 1943 USHO, Sailing Dir. No. 138, p. <u>210, 214</u>     |
| (2) Ross Shelf Ice   | 1943 USHO chart 2562, 1/11M                             |
| (3) Ross Shelf Ice   | 194 <u>3</u> US AAF Air Nav. 1/3M sh. <u>72, 73, 78</u> |
| (4) Ross Shelf Ice   | 1943 US AAF Aero. Plan. ch. 1/5M sh. <u>43</u> W.       |
| (5) Ross Shelf Ice   | 1928-9 Am. Geog. Soc. Antarctic 1/4M sh. <u>3</u>       |
| (6) Ross Shelf Ice   | 1932 Nat. Geog. Soc. Antarctic 1/16M                    |
| (6A) ROSS ICE SHELF (ice shelf) 81°30'S., 175°00'W. 1969 BGN Geog. 14, p. 166<br>(Line indicates name is not on source. See reverse side for additional evidence.) |   |

Comments: Sources 1 to 4 are preliminary editions and/or have had limited distribution.

Reason for choice of name: Ross originally referred to this feature as an "ice barrier", for such it was to anyone approaching it from the sea in a sailing ship. The term has undergone variations in the past 100 years. We have adopted the term shelf ice which was first recommended by Dr. Otto Nordenskjöld and specifically applied to this feature by C. S. Wright and R. E. Priestley in their monumental work, Glaciology, British (Terra Nova) Antarctic Expedition, 1910-1913, London, 1922, For discussion of terminology see pp. 162-163.

generic change to "ice shelf" approved by Ex. Comm.

Submitted by:

Date:

Prepared by:

Date:

Recommended by:

Date:

Mimeo. list date:

Passed by Advisory Committee:

Date:

Approved by: *F. Buswell*

Date: JUL 22 1947

Secretary: *[Signature]*

Code Name or Names on SourceDate Code for Source

(7)	Ross Ice Shelf	1939 Aust. Dept. Int. Antarctic 1/7M
(8)	X Ross Ice Barrier	1939 Brit. Adm. Antarctic Pilot p. <u>160</u>
(9)	The Ross Ice Barrier	1942 Brit. Adm. ch. 1240, 1/10M
(10)	The Ross Ice Barrier	19 <u>40</u> Brit. Adm. ch. 317 <u>7</u> , 1: <u>3,800,000</u>
(11)	Ross Barrier Surface	1922 Times Atlas, 1/4M, pl. 9
(12)	ROSSBARRIEREN	193 <u>9</u> Hansen, Sydishavet, 1/ <u>2</u> M sh. <u>2</u>
(13)	-----	1936 Hansen, Atlas over Antarktis pl. I
(14)	<sup>ss</sup> X GroBe Eisebene	19 <u>30</u> Andrees Handatlas pl. <u>7-8</u> inset <u>III</u>
(15)	No coverage	19__ German H0 chart_____
(16)	No coverage	19__ French H0 chart_____
(17)	The Ross Ice Barrier	1936 Brit. Adm. ch. 3206, 1:2,600,000
(18)	Great Ice Barrier, p. 281 Ross Barrier, p. 356 Ross Barrier Surface (three maps in end pocket)	1909 Ernest H. Shackleton, "The Heart of the Antarctic," Vol. II

Ross Ice Shelf: vast ice shelf, to a large part grounded, occupying the entire S. part of the Ross Sea embayment and ending seaward in a cliffed ice front about 400 mi. long; in  $81^{\circ}30'$  S.,  $175^{\circ}00'$  W. Disc. by Capt. (later Sir) James Clark Ross, RN, for whom it is named, on Jan. 28, 1841. Ross mapped the ice front eastward to  $160^{\circ}$  W.

Not adopted: Grosse Eisebene [German], Ross Ice Barrier, Ross Shelf Ice.

Ross Shelf Ice: a vast ~~expanse of~~ shelf ice, to a large part grounded, occupying the entire southern part of the Ross Sea embayment and ending seaward in a cliffed ice front about 400 miles long; in latitude  $81^{\circ}30' S.$ , longitude  $175^{\circ}00' W.$  Discovered by Sir James Clark Ross, <sup>on</sup> January 28, 1841, who mapped the ice front eastward to  $160^{\circ} W.$  ←

Not: Grasse Eisebene [German], ~~Rossbarrieren~~ [Norwegian],  
Ross Ice Barrier, ~~the Ross Ice Barrier~~, Ross Shelf Ice.

Name changed  
13 Jan 53  
W.F.  
K.J.B.